

then had to be booked on flights to resettlement countries, even as air commerce shrank in Southeast Asia after 1975. The creativity, courage, and perseverance of Mr. Corcos and his team in making this process run smoothly was amazing and won him well deserved international praise.

Mr. Corcos came out of retirement again in 1979 to deal with a second surge of Indochinese refugees. This time, the numbers were even more enormous, but he was skillfully able to replicate the process of earlier years on a much larger regional basis.

Mr. Corcos is a true humanitarian and made a vast difference in the lives of countless refugees fleeing from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos in the 1970s. He is a legend among those who created and benefitted from the Indochinese Refugee Program, and his legacy will forever be remembered.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL LISA LEONARD AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL RANDY JOHNSON

● Mr. BOND. Madam President, we all know it would be impossible to do our jobs without the assistance of many dedicated professionals staffing the legislative liaison offices for all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Today, I pay tribute to COL Lisa Leonard and LTC Randy Johnson who joined the National Guard Bureau's Office of Legislative Liaison as the Army and Air Liaison Officers and together collectively served 12 years and are now, unfortunately for us, retiring at the same time.

Colonel Leonard and Lieutenant Colonel Johnson have served competently and well at a pivotal time in the history of the National Guard. Now, more than ever, America relies on the National Guard both at home and abroad. Since 9/11 more than 200,000 Guard troops have left their homes, their jobs, and their families to participate in the global war on terror. The National Guard has provided as much as half of the combat force and 40 percent of the total force in Iraq. Guard troops are also called upon to respond to natural disasters at home like Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Understanding these dual missions is a job in itself.

During Lisa and Randy's tenure, the National Guard has also had to weather a controversial base realignment and closure, BRAC, round and several other major legislative battles concerning relative troop strength, equipment levels and the ability of the Guard to participate in major Pentagon decisions.

Lisa's and Randy's contributions to the Senate began with their natural ability to establish personal relationships with staff while telling the story of the National Guard. They earned the respect of Members and staff on both sides of the aisle with their expertise, strong work ethic, and dedication to the job.

These are truly the unsung heroes of the legislative process, faithfully providing information, expertise, and analysis on behalf of the National Guard on myriad national security and homeland security issues.

We wish them both well in their well-earned retirement from Active Duty and from this assignment. They will be missed.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS W. RICHARDSON

● Mr. COCHRAN. Madam President, Mr. Thomas W. Richardson of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will soon retire with over 37 years of exceptional service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is member of the Senior Executive Service and is the Director of Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center Coastal Hydraulic Laboratory. His accomplishments and dedication to the Corps of Engineers' laboratory community and the Army are exceptional and will have a significant and long lasting positive impact on this Nation.

Following 3 years of service as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mr. Richardson began his Army civilian career in 1974 as a research hydraulic engineer at the U.S. Army Engineer Waterways Experiment Station, in Vicksburg, MS. Through the 1970s and early 1980s he was a principal investigator for research studies on dredging systems for beach nourishment for offshore sources and an assistant investigator on a research study to develop new systems for bypassing sand past tidal inlets. During this time he designed and constructed the world's first portable, land-based hydraulic sand bypassing system, which was delivered to the Corps of Engineers North Central Division as an operational plant. A systematic approach became available to address a major national concern with both economic and strategic aspects; that of bypassing sand to preserve beaches and to maintain harbor channels.

In 1983, Mr. Richardson became chief of the coastal structures and evaluation branch, Coastal Engineering Research Center where he supervised 16 researchers specializing in functional design and performance of coastal structures, dredging and sand bypassing systems, geomorphic evaluation, and empirical design methods for coastal projects. From branch chief he quickly moved up to division chief in 1985 and served in that capacity for 14 years, first as chief of the Engineering Development Division and then as the Chief of the Coastal Sediments and Engineering Division. He directed numerous comprehensive research and development investigations, and studies of coastal processes, sediment transport, shoreline change modeling, beach fill design methods, prototype systems design and development, and functional design of coastal projects. Notably, he developed general technical approaches

and R&D programs that produced the extraordinarily successful and patented CORE-LOC concrete armor unit and the Scanning Hydrographic Operational Airborne LIDAR Survey—SHOALS—system.

Mr. Richardson assumed the duties of acting assistant lab director in January 2000. In June of that same year, he was elevated to acting director, CHL. Mr. Richardson joined the Senior Executive Service in March 2002 upon becoming director of the CHL.

Under the leadership of Mr. Richardson, the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory directly supported the Army transformation, civil works strategic plan, global war on terrorism operations, and high priority civil works operations. In addition, CHL addressed critical levee issues for the Department of Homeland Security by developing a unique system to rapidly repair breaches in levees caused by natural phenomena or terrorist attack.

Throughout his career, Tom Richardson has demonstrated a profound commitment to the Army, the Corps of Engineers, and the Nation. He is a consummate professional whose performance in over 37 years of service has personified those traits of competency and integrity that our Nation has come to expect of its senior civilian leaders. I congratulate Mr. Richardson on his distinguished service to the U.S. Army and the Nation.●

REMEMBERING RYNE DOUGHERTY

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to Ryne Dougherty, a young man from Montclair, NJ, whose young life was tragically cut short on October 15. He suffered a fatal brain hemorrhage while playing football, the sport about which he was so passionate. Although he was only 16 years old, Ryne made a tremendous impact on his teammates, friends, and community. He was a caring and loving young man who displayed a special kindness and a deep commitment to his friends and family. An honor student and linebacker on the Montclair High School Junior Varsity football team, Ryne also found time to fix computers to benefit underprivileged families. Ryne was admired by all who knew him—over 1,000 mourners gathered together to remember him and comfort each other.

Ryne worked toward his goals with steadfast determination, eager to succeed. His football coach said that Ryne never sought glory or praise; he came to the field every day prepared to work his hardest out of respect for his teammates and love for the game. Family and friends said that Ryne always wanted to talk about football. He was always ready with the latest NFL statistics and greatly enjoyed playing football video games with his friends in his spare time. To honor Ryne, the New York Giants held a moment of silence during their game on October 19, a fitting tribute for a young fan.